

### 34. OCCURRENCE OF *LINDERNIA OPPOSITIFOLIA* (RETZ.) MUK. IN W. BENGAL

*Lindernia oppositifolia* is a herb of the second half of the monsoon ; it is profusely branched, erect or sub-erect, 7-15 cm. high, with angled branches. Leaves opposite, but one of the pair is much reduced when subtending a flower. Generally flowers are axillary, solitary at a node, less commonly one flower in each of the two axils; in every case the subtending leaves are much reduced ; rarely do flowers pass into terminal racemes, or appear in the axils of normal leaves. This character of the inflorescence is typical of the plant, and very obvious in the field.

This plant is common in south India and Bombay. Haines in 1922 included it for Bihar on the authority of C. B. Clarke, but Mooney in 1950 had not seen the plant in Bihar. In 1951 Bressers reported this species from Khuntibazar, Ranchi District, Bihar.

In Bengal, Voigt reported it from Serampore in 1845 ; Prain in his BENGAL PLANTS, 1903, did not mention the species, and in 1905 considered Voigt's report from Serampore very doubtful.

I have recently collected this species from Horispur in Howrah Dist. My collection from W. Bengal, and Bressers's from Ranchi Dist. prove definitely that the plant occurs in the eastern parts of India. My collection has been deposited in the Central National Herbarium, Calcutta, under reference number *Bennet* 1028.

CENTRAL NATIONAL HERBARIUM,  
INDIAN BOTANIC GARDEN,  
SIBPUR, CALCUTTA,  
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#### REFERENCES

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| BRESSERS, J. (1951) : The Botany of Ranchi District, Bihar, India, p. 106. | PRAIN, D. (1905) : In <i>Rec. Bot. Surv. India</i> 3 : 253.          |
| HAINES, H. H. (1922) : The Botany of Bihar and Orissa, p. 634.             | VOIGT, J. C. (1845) : <i>Hortus Suburbanus Calcuttensis</i> , p. 504 |

### 35. SOME OBSERVATIONS ON *CISTANCHE TUBULOSA* WIGHT

The present account deals with observations made by the author on *Cistanche tubulosa* Wight, a root parasite, in Churu and Sriganganagar districts, Rajasthan, during locust surveys from 1957 to 1962.

The parasite was seen growing on sandy or sandy loam soil in association with : *Calligonum polygonoides* L., *Prosopis spicigera* L., *Calotropis procera* R. Br., *C. gigantea* Br., *Salvadora persica* L., *Crota-*